



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

San Diego Public Library

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GAY AND LESBIAN POLITICAL ASYLUM SEEKERS AND U.S. IMMIGRATION POLICY DISCUSSED AT SAN DIEGO PUBLIC LIBRARY

Special Guest from East Africa Share Personal Story of Seeking Asylum in the U.S.

SAN DIEGO –The San Diego Public Library and Alliance San Diego will host a community forum on *LGBT Asylum and Immigration in the U.S.* on Wednesday, March 6 at 6:30 p.m. in the 3rd floor Auditorium, located at 820 E Street in downtown San Diego. As Congress begins debate on a new immigration policy for the nation, speakers will address the history of anti-gay and lesbian bias in U.S. immigration policy including an asylum speaker from Uganda currently going through the asylum process. This event is free and open to the public.

The concept of “political asylum” is not limited to individuals fleeing their home countries because they have opposing political views in the traditional sense. Asylum-seekers flee persecution on many grounds, including race, religion and, increasingly, their status as LGBT individuals. What does it mean to be a refugee and to seek asylum in the United States on the basis of one’s identification as a member of the LGBT community? What are the unique issues that LGBT community members face in fleeing severe homophobia in their countries of origin? How does current U.S. immigration policy affect LGBT asylum-seekers?

Alliance San Diego is a non-profit and non-partisan community empowerment organization that builds coalitions to promote justice and social change. Alliance San Diego focuses on reaching out to individuals in under-served communities to inspire and educate them about their rights and responsibilities as citizens. Current programs include: popular democracy, human rights, educational equity, fair fiscal policies. Find out more about it at www.alliancesd.org.

Learn about other events at the San Diego Public Library’s Central Library and 35 branches, find links to numerous additional resources, or search for materials in the Library’s catalog online at www.sandiegolibrary.org

San Diego Public Library

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